

**AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS**

Please replace FIG. 4 with the replacement drawing sheet of FIG. 4 attached hereto. An annotated sheet for FIG. 4 showing changes has also been included. Reference numeral "39" has been changed to "28" in accordance with page 2, line 30 of the specification. Additionally, reference numeral "28" has been changed to "39" in accordance with page 3, line 2 of the specification, as reflected in the amendment to the specification in the Office action response dated November 2, 2009. No new matter is believed entered.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet (1 total)

Attachment: Annotated Sheet (1 total)

### **Remarks**

Entry of the present amendment and reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the present amendment is respectfully requested.

The drawings were indicated as being acceptable-in-part. Specifically, the replacement drawing for FIG. 1 was acceptable while the replacement drawing for FIG. 4 was objected to for an error regarding the reference numeral "28". By the present amendment FIG. 4 has been replaced. A replacement sheet for the amended drawing is attached. As explained in the "AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS" section and in the attached annotated sheet, FIG. 4 has been amended to change reference numeral "39" to "28" and to change reference numeral "28" to "39" in accordance with the specification. No new matter is believed entered. It is believed that the Applicant has addressed all of the concerns raised in the Office action. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the corresponding objection to FIG. 4.

Claims 12-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Matsuura (U.S. 2004/0237317). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection at least for the following reasons.

Claim 12 has been amended to state "characterized in that one of the gear housing parts (21, 25) is provided with a knob (38) that engages a stop member on the other gear housing part (21, 25) in order to limit the angular motion of the cutting unit (13) to the working position range when an operator is changing the working position of the tool, to prevent that the user unintentionally turns the cutting unit (13) out of the working position range and that the cutting movement of the cutting elements (13a) are thereby stopped." Matsuura fails to disclose such structure.

In distinction, Matsuura describes a trimmer 1 having a locking mechanism 21 for locking the trimmer 1 within a pre-determined safety angle range. The locking mechanism 21, shown in FIG. 4, is intended for locking the cutting unit in a suitable working position. Consequently, when the cutting unit has been locked by means of the locking mechanism 21, the cutting unit cannot be rotated in relation to the guide tube without releasing the locking mechanism

21. When the locking mechanism 21 is released, such as by moving the sliding sleeve on the guide tube towards the drive unit), the cutting tool 5 can be rotated in relation to the guide tube to a desired position. However, Matsuura does not disclose limiting the rotational/pivotal movement of the cutting tool 5 to the range of working positions when the locking mechanism 21 is in a released state.

In the present invention, the knob 38 is not for locking the cutting unit in a certain working position. Instead, the knob 38 is used to prevent that the cutting movement of the cutting elements is unintentionally stopped when the user has released the locking mechanism in order to change the working position of the cutting unit. This is prevented since the cutting unit cannot be rotated/pivoted out from the range of working positions without the user lifting the knob 38. The knob 38 is described further in paragraphs [0009] – [0012] of the present application.

In addition, it is submitted that the description of the locking mechanism in Matsuura is not correct. From FIG. 4 of Matsuura, the locking mechanism 21 appears to be located between the guide shaft 1 and the coupling member 6. The description, however, states that the locking mechanism 21 is located between the coupling members 6, 7.

For at least these reasons, Matsuura fails to disclose the above cited structure of independent claim 12. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the corresponding rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) of independent claim 12.


Claims 13-19 depend from independent claim 12 that is believed to be in condition for allowance as set forth above. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the corresponding rejections of claims 13-19 as depending directly or indirectly from allowable claim 12.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. ABE1-41355.

Respectfully submitted,  
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By:



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